UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,744	08/30/2001	Sanaa Abdelhadi	AUS9-2001-0362-US1	9990

47959	7590	12/02/2004	

IBM CORP. (AVE)
C/O LAW OFFICE OF ANTHONY ENGLAND
PO BOX 5307
AUSTIN, TX 78763-5307

EXAMINER
MUHEBBULLAH, SAJEDA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/942,744	ABDELHADI ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Sajeda Muhebbullah	2174	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 July 2004</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26,29,30,33 and 34* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *25,26,29,30,33 and 34* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,5-11,13-19 and 21-24* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *4,12 and 20* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
   application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 7/20/2004.

2.   Claims 1-26, 29-30, and 33-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 29

and 33 are independent claims. In the Amendment, claims 1, 9, 17, 25-26, 29-30, and 33-34

were amended and claims 27-28, 31-32 and 35-36 were cancelled. This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on
> sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.   Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-19, and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Microsoft Outlook 2000 ("Microsoft", Microsoft Outlook 2000 SR-I

(9.0.0.4527)).

As per independent claim 1, Microsoft teaches a method for electronic messaging

management, comprising the steps of:

displaying a message interface for composing and sending an electronic message

(Microsoft, Figure 1);

receiving a first portion of the message in the message interface (Microsoft,

Figure 1, Callout 3);

receiving, in the message interface, a first set of one or more recipients for the first

portion (Microsoft, Figure 1 , Callout 1);

receiving a second portion of the message in the message interface, wherein the message

interface for composing and sending the electronic message has only a single send button for

receiving a send command (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 6);

receiving, in the message interface, a second set of one or more recipients for the second

portion (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 4); and

sending the message, wherein both the first and second portions are sent to the respective

recipients responsive to a receiving a single send command via the send button and wherein the

message portions are sent without receiving an individual send command for the first message

portion and without receiving an individual send command for the second message portion

(Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 7). Allowing Outlook to send an individual message immediately

is taught by Padwick ("Padwick", Using Microsoft Outlook 2000, ISBN 0789719096). To enable

the immediate sending feature you must check a box in the settings menu. Disabling this feature

allows the user to send multiple messages with a single send action. When the feature is disabled,

each time the user hits "Send" on an individual mail message, the message moves to the outbox.

Only when the user hits the "Send/Receive" button within Outlook itself does Outlook send all

the messages in the outbox, therefore sending multiple messages with a single send action.

Independent claims 9 and 17 are similar in scope to claim 1, and are therefore rejected

under similar rationale.

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Outlook teaches the method of claim 1,

wherein displaying the message interface comprises the steps of:

displaying a first data entry area for the message (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 3); and

displaying a second data entry area in the same message interface for receiving the

second set of one or more recipients (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 4).

Dependent claims 10 and 18 are similar in scope to claim 2, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 2, Microsoft teaches the method of claim 2, wherein the second data entry area includes an area for receiving the message of the second message portion (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 6).

Dependent claims 11 and 19 are similar in scope to claim 3, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 2, Microsoft teaches the method of claim 2, wherein the second data entry area is displayed responsive to a certain user action sequence, the user action sequence comprising i) entering a certain combination on a data entry device, ii) selecting a menu item, using a pointing device, a data entry device, or a pointing device and data entry device combination, or iii) selecting an icon using a pointing device (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callout 8).

Dependent claims 13 and 21 are similar in scope to claim 5, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 1, Microsoft teaches the method of claim 1, comprising the step of receiving a selection of whether one of the message portions is to be sent exclusively to its own set of recipients, or is also to be sent to the set of recipients indicated for the other one of the message portions (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callouts 2 and 5). The recipients of each message may be copied and pasted into the "CC:" field of each others message, thereby sending each message to both sets of recipients.

Dependent claims 14 and 22 are similar in scope to claim 6, and are therefore rejected

under similar rationale.

As per claim 7, which is dependent on claim 1, Microsoft teaches the method of claim 1, comprising the step of receiving a selection of whether one of the sets of recipients is to be sent an indication of the existence of the other one of the message portions (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callouts 2 and 5). By allowing the user to "CC:" the first message to the second set of recipients, the recipients are notified of the existence of the first message.

Dependent claims 15 and 23 are similar in scope to claim 7, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 7, Microsoft teaches the method of claim 7, comprising the step of receiving a selection of whether one of the sets of recipients is to be sent the identity of the one or more recipients of the other one of the message portions (Microsoft, Figure 1, Callouts 2 and 5). Using the "CC:" feature in Microsoft Outlook provides the identities of those to whom the message was sent.

Dependent claims 16 and 24 are similar in scope to claim 8, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claims 25-26, 29-30 and 33-34 are allowed.

6.   Claims 4, 12, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Specifically, as per claims 4, 12, 20, 25, 29, and 33 the prior art fails to teach wholly, or in

combination, the following elements:

wherein the first and second message portions are both received in a single data entry

area.

Although Outlook teaches sending multiple message portions thru a single send

command, Outlook does not teach these message portions to be composed in a <u>single</u> data entry

area.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance."

Response to Arguments

8.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-19, and 21-24 have been fully

considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' argued the following:

a) Applicant understands that even the Outlook arrangement requires that messages are

sent responsive to a global send button and also responsive to individual send buttons

nevertheless, when the Outlook messages are sent responsive the global send button the

messages are at that time sent responsive to that last, single, although global, send command.

For these reasons, Applicant herein submits an amendment to claim 1 stating that the

message interface for composing and sending the electronic message has only a single send

button for receiving a send command and wherein both the first and second portions are sent to

the respective recipients responsive to a receiving a single send command via the send button

and wherein the message portions are sent without receiving an individual send command for the

first message portion and without receiving an individual send command for the second message

portion.

The Examiner disagrees for the following reasons:

Per a) Just as Applicant is clearly aware of, Outlook does teach sending the message

portions thru a single send action as stated in the above rejection of claim 1. Applicants

amended claims still do not overcome the Outlook reference. Applicant himself states that

Outlook does teach sending the messages in response to a single send command.

Communications

9.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Sajeda Muhebbullah whose telephone number is *(571) 272-4065.*
The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday/Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (EST)
and on alternate Mondays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on *(571) 272-4063.*

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are
as follows:

(703) 746-7238 [After Final Communication]

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

(703) 746-9915 [For status inquiries, Draft Communication]

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Sajeda Muhebbullah
Patent Examiner
November 22, 2004

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100